

October 13, 1999

To: Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

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From: Ronnie Howard
795 Bishops Lane
Webster, New York, 14580

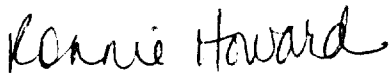
Subject: Prospective change in requirements for meter dose inhalers, and intranasal inhalers that contain CFC's.

Recommendation: Please do not change the availability of inhalers that contain chloro fluoro carbons.

Please do not change the availability of inhalers of either kind that contain CFCs until there is a generic equivalent available that does not contain the CFCs. I am sympathetic to the environmental issue related to the continued use of inhalers with CFCs, however on the other side of the stone, you have parents such as myself who are having to purchase ten different medicines a month for their child's asthma, and the costs for these medicines are so high already. Even if you have insurance, the copays are hitting \$40 an inhaler for non-preferred medicines, of which Proventil, one of the prototype inhalers propelled without CFCs happens to cost. However the "generic equivalent" is propelled with CFCs, but only has a \$10 copay per inhaler. Now as a parent with more than one child requiring chronic therapy for asthma, I have to give you my sob story that I will be unable to purchase the monthly medicines for my children if you allow this change in the law. I am a middle class American, and I know there have to be many more families like mine that would be in the same situation. So I urge you to think again before saving the environment, and help us to save the children concurrently.

If you must pass this legislation, please do something to insure the availability of the environmentally friendly medicines at the lowered generic costs to consumers.

Thank you,



Ronnie Howard

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Ronnie Howard
795 Bishops Ln
Webster, NY 14580



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FDA

5630 Fishers Lane Rm 1061

Rockville, MD 20857

